

WHAT IS CLAIMS**CLAIMS 1-15 (DELETED)**

CLAIM 16. (currently amended) A compact mobile vacuum excavation, and surface
cleaning method comprising the steps of: [having a compact arrangement means
to minimize the surface footprint of a system, said compact mobile vacuum
arrangement means having] providing a vacuum container, said vacuum container
20 having a length and width and having a vacuum producing means to create a
vacuum within said vacuum container, providing a conduit to vacuum liquid or
solid particles into said vacuum container, and [and a liquid storage container,]
said vacuum container being mounted at an inclined slope along said length of said
container and sufficient to allow said solids or liquid[s] to be emptied from said
25 vacuum container by gravity through an access door to said vacuum container
when said access door is opened along said width of said container, and further
providing a liquid storage container and said liquid storage container being
mounted below said incline slope of said vacuum container.

30 CLAIM 17. (currently amended) A mobile surface cleaning or vacuum excavating
[vacuum] method comprising the steps of: [having a compact arrangement means
to minimize the surface foot print and to concentrate the weight of a system said
mobile vacuum arrangement means having] providing a vacuum container, said
vacuum container having a vacuum producing means to create a vacuum within

5 said vacuum container, providing a conduit to vacuum liquid or solid particles into
said vacuum container, and [and a liquid storage container,] said vacuum
container being mounted at an inclined slope sufficient to allow said solids and
liquid[s] to empty from said vacuum container by gravity through an access door
to said vacuum container when said access door is opened, and further providing a
10 liquid storage container and [to provide space for] said liquid storage container [to
be] being mounted below said incline slope of said vacuum container and further
comprising the steps of: [having a means of mounting] providing a filter housing to
house air filters, said filter housing being mounted adjacent to said vacuum
container so as to allow a single door access to both said filter housing and said
15 vacuum container, [and providing a means of producing a vacuum within said
vacuum container] and said filter housing having a connecting conduit [s] to flow
air from said vacuum container [through] to said filter housing [to said vacuum
producing means,] and said filter housing having filters disposed within it to
remove solids from said air.

20 CLAIM 18.(currently amended) A mobile vacuum method of vacuum excavation, and
surface cleaning comprising the steps of: [having a compact arrangement means to
minimize the surface foot print of a system, said mobile vacuum arrangement
means having] providing a vacuum container having a length and width and, a
25 filter housing, and a liquid storage container, said vacuum container comprising a
vacuum producing means to create a vacuum within said vacuum container, and
further comprising a conduit to vacuum solid particles or liquid into said vacuum
container, and said vacuum container being mounted at an inclined slope along

5 said length of said container and sufficient to allow said solids and said liquids to
be emptied from said vacuum container by gravity through an access door of said
vacuum container when said access door is opened along said width of said
container, and further comprising the step of said liquid storage container being
mounted below [said incline of] said incline slope of said vacuum container and
10 further comprising the step of said filter housing being mounted at an incline slope
[mounted] adjacent to said vacuum tank.

CLAIM 19 (currently amended) [A vacuum method of] A vacuum excavation, and
surface cleaning method according to claim16, [further comprising the steps of
15 having] wherein said liquid storage container [be] comprises an additional step of
having said storage container side walls [configured so as to] add structurally
support to said vacuum [debris] container.

CLAIM 20. (currently amended) [A vacuum method as 'described in claim 16, further
comprising the steps of:] A vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning method according
20 to claim16, wherein said vacuum container and said water storage container further
comprise the step of [having a means of] mounting a vacuum blower, an air filter, [a
water pump and] and an engine adjacent to said vacuum container. [on a mobile
platform] .

25 CLAIM 21(currently amended) [A vacuum method as described in claim 16, having]
A vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning method according to claim16, 17 or
18, wherein said vacuum container and water storage container comprise an
additional step of mounting auxiliary equipment adjacent to said vacuum

5 container and water storage container, and said auxiliary equipment is chosen
from a list consisting of one or more of: [a support base adjacently mounted, and
said support base comprising one or more devices selected from the group
consisting of] a vacuum blower exhaust muffler, [base mount for] a vacuum
pump, [base mount for] a power plant, [base mount for a water pump], a hydraulic
10 reservoir, a hydraulic pump, a vacuum pump, an air filter, a water pump, a boom
arm, a trailer, an engine, a hose reel, a jetter, a hydraulic connection for hydraulic
tools, an air compressor, a generator, a process controller, a surface cleaning tool,
a jack hammer, a concrete saw, a solids liquid separator, a water filter, a water
heater, a water purifier, a water sterilizer, a vibrating screen, a liquid recycling
15 system, a hydrocarbon absorption system, a solids dispensing system, a air
conveyor, a screw conveyor, a cyclone, a liquid dispensing system, a vibrator, an
excavation bucket, a torque wrench, a hydro-cyclone, a noise muffler, a goose
neck trailer coupler, a skid steer, a zero turn radius vehicle, a rail road car, a fork
lift, a truck, a back hoe, a track loader, a barge, a powered linear actuator or
20 telescoping cylinder to open or close an access door to said vacuum container, a
skid mounting base, and a fuel reservoir.

CLAIM 22.(currently amended) [A vacuum method as described in claim 16, further

comprising the steps of: having a vacuum] A vacuum excavation, and surface

25 cleaning method according to claim 16, wherein said vacuum container and said

water storage container further comprise the step of mounting an air filter housing

[mounted] adjacent to said vacuum container.

5 CLAIM 23.(currently amended) [A vacuum method as described in claim 17 , further
having a means to open or close, said vacuum debris container] A vacuum
excavation, and surface cleaning method according to claim16 or 18 wherein said
access door [using] is opened and closed by a telescoping means disposed within
said vacuum [debris] container, and said telescoping means being chose from one
10 or more devices selected from [the] a group consisting of a hydraulic cylinder, an
air cylinder and a linear actuator.

CLAIM 24.(currently amended) [A vacuum method as described in claim 18 ,
further comprising the steps of: having a means of separating] A vacuum
excavation, and surface cleaning method according to claim16, 17 or18, wherein
15 said vacuum container comprises an additional step of providing a vibrating
screen disposed within said vacuum container to separate liquids from solids.
[comprising a vibrating screen disposed within said vacuum container.]

CLAIM 25.(currently amended) [A vacuum method of claim 24, further comprising
the steps of: having] A vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning method
20 according to claim 16, 17 or 18, wherein said vacuum container comprises an
additional step of providing a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum
container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum
container, and said dispensing means being chose from a group consisting of a
pump, a grinder, and a progressive cavity screw.

25 CLAIM 26.(withdrawn) [A vacuum method of claim 18, further comprising the
steps of: having a means to dispense liquids and solids from said vacuum
container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum
container.

5 CLAIM 27.(withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 24, further comprising the
steps of: having a means to dispense a solid from said vacuum container without
eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container.

CLAIM 28. (withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 18, further comprising the steps
of: having an articulated boom arm mounted adjacent to said vacuum container,
10 and said articulated boom having one or more elbows and arms.

CLAIM 29. (currently amended) [A vacuum method of claim 28, further comprising the
steps of: said] A vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning method according to
claim 16, 17 or 18, wherein said vacuum container and water storage container
15 comprise an additional step of mounting an articulated boom arm adjacent to said
vacuum container and water storage container, and said articulated boom arm
having one or more boom arms, and one or more elbows and said articulated
boom arm comprises an additional step of having auxiliary equipment mounted
adjacent to said boom arm and said auxiliary equipment being chose from a group
20 consisting of: a linear actuator, a hydraulic cylinder, a remotely controlled
operating system, a control system, a control system monitor, a jetter, a sand
blaster, a telescoping boom arm, a telescoping vacuum conduit, a powered
rotating knuckle, a sand blasting tool, a vibrator, a concrete saw, a jack hammer,
[having a means to attach tools comprising one or more devices selected from the
25 group consisting of:] a vacuum hose with vacuum hose end attachments, a water
pressure hose with spray nozzle attachments, an air hose with air tool attachments,
an electric cord with [plug ins] attachments for electric power tools, hydraulic
hoses with hydraulic tool attachments, an excavation bucket, a surface cleaner, a

5 grinder, a pump, a torque wrench, a sensor to detect buried utilities, and a man
hole cover removal tool. [means.]

CLAIM 30. (withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 29, further comprising the steps
of: said boom arm comprising one or more of a device selected from the group
10 consisting of: a powered rotating knuckle, a powered rotating elbow, a powered
telescoping boom, a powered lifting arm, a remote control system and an earth
digging bucket mounted adjacent to said boom.

CLAIM 31.(withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 28, further comprising the steps
of: said boom arm having adjacently mounted one or more of devices selected
15 from the group consisting of a hydraulic torque wrench, 360 degree rotating
elbow, 360 degree rotating knuckle, telescoping vacuum conduit, earth digging
bucket, earth penetrating utility sensor, earth penetrating utility locator, man hole
cover remover, high pressure water demolition means, sand blasting attachments,
water jetter nozzle, vacuum conduit tractor, concrete cutting means, asphalt
20 cutting means, surface cleaning attachments, vibrator excavation means,
aerodynamic rotary water jet surface cleaner, multiple rotary pulse water nozzles
arranged around the circumference of the suction end of a vacuum conduit, and
pressurized water conduit.

25 CLAIM 32.(withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 25, further comprising the steps of:
having a means to recycle said dispensed water from said vacuum container to an
end use pressurized spray nozzle, said dispensed water recycler having one or
more devices selected from the group consisting of: a water pump, a water

5 conduit, a water spray nozzle, a vibrating filter, a liquid container, a water pump,
a water filter, and a rotary spray surface cleaner,

CLAIM 33.(Currently ammended) [A vacuum method of claim 25, further comprising

the steps of: having] A vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning method

10 according to claim 18 wherein said vacuum container comprises an additional step
of providing a vibrating screen disposed within said vacuum container to separate
liquid from solids and said vacuum container further comprises an additional step
of providing a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum container without
eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container, and said
15 dispensing means being chose from a group consisting of a pump, a grinder, and a
progressive cavity screw and further comprising a means to recycle said liquid to
a surface cleaning means having one or more devices selected from the group
consisting of: a [water] liquid pressure spray nozzle, a means to direct said nozzle
to impinge said surface to be cleaned with said liquid, a housing to contain said
20 liquid spray, a vacuum conduit attachment to said housing, a vacuum conduit to
vacuum said sprayed liquid from said surface, and said vacuum conduit to convey
said surface cleaning liquid to said vacuum container.

CLAIM 34.(withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 29, further comprising the steps

25 of: attaching an excavation bucket on an end of said boom arm and providing a
telescoping vacuum conduit arm connected to the end of said vacuum conduit for
removing debris, said telescoping arm being provided with a means to spray
liquid in order to loosen debris.

CLAIM 35.(withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 16, 17 or 18 further comprising the steps of: providing a mobility means chosen from the group consisting of mounting said vacuum method on a powered zero-turn radius vehicle, a powered track mobile vehicle, a track hoe, a back hoe, a trailer, a skid mount, an attachment for a skid steer, an attachment for a fork lift, a truck mounted unit, and a rail road car mounted unit.

CLAIM 36 (withdrawn) A vacuum method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of: having a vacuum producing means, a vacuum conduit to vacuum solids and liquids into said vacuum container and said vacuum conduit having a first end mounted to said vacuum container and a second end of said vacuum conduit having an attachment means for a surface cleaner, a screen disposed within said vacuum container to separate solids from liquids, a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container, and a pump to transfer liquid under pressure from said liquid storage container to said surface cleaner.